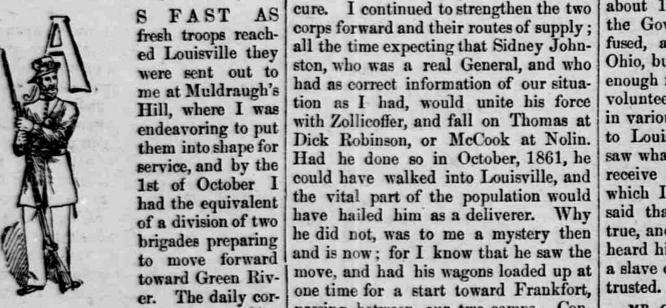
IN COMMAND IN KENTUCKY.

FAMOUS INTERVIEW WITH THE SECRETAR

OF WAR.

The Story of Gen. Sherman's Insanity.

CHAPTER IX—(continued.)



tween Gen. Anderson and myself satisfied me that the worry and harassment at Louisville were exhausting his strength and health, and that he would soon leave. On a telegraphic summons from him, about the 5th of October, I went down to Louisville, when Gen. Anderson said HE COULD NOT STAND THE MENTAL TOR-

of his command any longer, and that he must go away, or it would kill him. On the 8th of October he actually published an order relinquishing the command, and, by reason of my seniority, I had no alternative but to assume command, though much against the grain, and in direct violation of Mr. Lincoln's promise to me. I am certain that, in my earliest communication to the War Department, I renewed the expression of my wish to remain in a subordinate position, and that I received the assurance that Brig. Gen. Buell would soon arrive from Cali-

By that time I had become pretty us in Kentucky. familiar with the geography and the fest that the young men were generally Louisville, on his way back to Washing- assistance. inclined to the cause of the South, while ton. I was delighted to have an opportu- In the general conversation which fol- as the Legislature has provided money for orthe older men of property wanted to be nity to properly represent the actual lowed, I remember taking a large map of let alone-i. e., to remain neutral. As state of affairs, and got Mr. Guthrie to the United States, and assuming the peoto a forward movement that Fall, it was go with me across to Jeffersonville, to ple of the whole South to be in rebellion. simply impracticable; for we were forced meet the Secretary of War and escort that our task was to subdue them, showed to use divergent lines, leading our col- him to Louisville. The train was be- that McClellan was on the left, having umns farther and farther apart; and all hind time, but Mr. Guthrie and I waited a frontage of less than 100 miles, and I could attempt was to go on and collect till it actually arrived. Mr. Cameron Fremont the right, about the same; force and material at the two points was attended by Adj't-Gen. Lorenzo whereas I, the center, had from the Big already chosen, viz, Dick Robinson and Thomas, and six or seven gentlemen Sandy to Paducah, over 300 miles of



HON. SIMON CAMERON, SECRETARY OF WAR.

still continued to command the former, us to Louisville, with the distinct under- upon us. I heard him tell Gen. Thomas and on the 12th of October I dispatched standing that he must leave early the to make a note of our conversation, that Brig.-Gen. A. McD. McCook to com- next morning for Washington. mand the latter, which had been moved | We accordingly all took hacks, crossed | ing Washington. We all spent the evenforward to Nolin Creek, 52 miles out of the river by the ferry, and drove to the ing together agreeably in conversation, Louisville, toward Bowling Green. Galt House, where I was then staying. many Union citizens calling to pay their Staff officers began to arrive to relieve Brig.-Gen. T. J. Wood had come down respects, and the next morning early we us of the constant drudgery which, up from Indianapolis by the same train, took the train for Frankfort, Mr. Cam-Anderson and myself; and these were ceeded to my room on the first floor of and Washington, and I to Camp Dick all good men. Col. Thomas Swords, the Galt House, where our excellent Robinson to see Gen. Thomas and the Quartermaster, arrived on the 13th; landlord, Silas Miller, esq., sent us a troops there. Paymaster Larned on the 14th; and good lunch and something to drink. I FOUND GEN. THOMAS IN A TAVERN, Lieut. Smyzer, 5th Art., Acting Ord- Mr. Cameron was not well, and lay on with most of his regiments camped about nance Officer, on the 20th; Capt. Sy- my bed, but joined in the general con- him. He had sent a small force some monds was already on duty as the Com- versation. He and his party seemed to miles in advance toward Cumberland Secretary of War himself, Mr. Cameron, missary of Subsistence; Capt. O. D. be full of the particulars of the de- Gap, under Brig.-Gen. Schoepf. Re- who never, to my knowledge, took pains completed a good working staff.

THE EVERLASTING WORRY OF CITIZENS penses, which were the occasion of October Gen. Negley's Brigade arrived complaining of every petty delinquency of a soldier, and forcing themselves for linear feeling. Cameron's trip to St. Louis, and which in boats from Pittsburg, was sent out to and it is probable I resented the cruel finally resulted in Fremont's being re-Camp Nolin; and the 37th Ind., Col. insult with language of intense feeling. ward to discuss politics, made the posi- lieved, first by Gen. Hunter and after Hazzard, and 2d Minn., Col. Van Cleve, Still, I received no orders, no reinforce-

Published by permission of D. Appleton & Co., Dublishers of the Personal Memoirs of Gen. W. T. Cameron call d to me,

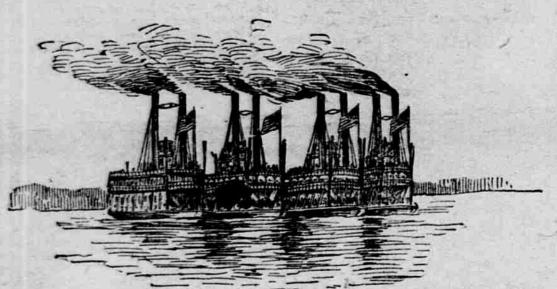
TROUBLES." I said I preferred not to discuss business

mind freely and without restraint." I am sure I stepped to the door, locked it to prevent intrusion, and then fully and fairly represented the state of affairs in Kentucky, especially the situation and were diverted East and West, and we got scarcely anything; that our forces at he could march to Louisville any day. letter: Cameron exclaimed: "You astonish me! Our informants, the Kentucky Senators and members of Congress, claim that To Gen. L. Thomas, Adjutant-General, Washthey have in Kentucky plenty of men, and all they want are arms and money.' I then said it was not true; for the young men were arming and going Indiana regiment forward in support. He was out openly in broad daylight to the embarrassed for transportation, and I authorrebel camps, provided with good horses and guns by their fathers, who were, at best, "neutral"; and as to arms, he had, in Washington, promised Gen. Anderson 40,000 of the best Springfield muskets, tion of a Commanding General no sine instead of which we had received only S FAST AS cure. I continued to strengthen the two about 12,000 Belgian muskets, which fresh troops reach- corps forward and their routes of supply; the Governor of Pennsylvania had reed Louisville they all the time expecting that Sidney John- fused, as had, also, the Governor of were sent out to ston, who was a real General, and who Ohio, but which had been adjuged good me at Muldraugh's Hill, where I was had as correct information of our situa-tion as I had, would unite his force volunteer Colonels raising regiments endeavoring to put | with Zollicoffer, and fall on Thomas at | in various parts of the State had come them into shape for Dick Robinson, or McCook at Nolin. to Louisville for arms, and when they service, and by the Had he done so in October, 1861, he saw what I had to offer had scorned to 1st of October I could have walked into Louisville, and receive them, to confirm the truth of had the equivalent the vital part of the population would which I appealed to Mr. Guthrie, who of a division of two have hailed him as a deliverer. Why said that every word I had spoken was ized him to hire teams and to move his whole brigades preparing he did not, was to me a mystery then true, and he repeated what I had often and is now; for I know that he saw the heard him say, that no man who owned

passing between our two camps. Conscious of our weakness, I was unnecestate what was said, and turned to Adj'tsarily unhappy, and doubtless exhibited | Gen. L. Thomas to inquire if he knew it too much to those near me; but it did of any troops available that had not low yesterday. This force, if concentrated, seem to me that the Government at been already assigned. He mentioned Washington, intent on the larger preparations of Fremont in Missouri, and Mc
Negley's Pennsylvania Brigade, at Pittsburg, and a couple of other regiments

ovents, it is all he had or I could give him.

I explained to you fully, when here, the supposed position of our adversaries, among which



ARRIVAL OF NEGLEY'S TROOPS.

fornia, and would be sent to relieve me. Clellan in Washington, actually ignored | that were then en route for St. Louis. About this time, say the middle of these to Louisville, and Thomas made general resources of Kentucky. We had October, I received notice, by telegraph, the telegraphic orders on the spot. He This organization is necessarily irregular, but parties all over the State raising regi- that the Secretary of War, Mr. Cameron further promised on reaching Washingments and companies; but it was mani- (then in St. Louis), would visit me at ton to give us more of his time and

porters. Mr. Cameron's first inquiry men, Fremont 60,000, whereas to me was, when he could start for Cincinnati, had only been alloted about 18,000. I saying that, as he had been detained at argued that for the purpose of defense St. Louis so long, it was important he | we should have 60,000 men at once, and should hurry on to Washington. I ex- for offense would need 200,000 before plained that the regular mail-boat would | we were done. Mr. Cameron, who still leave very soon-viz, at 12 m.-but I lay on the bed, threw up his hands and that I wanted to see him on business as to come from?" I asserted that there important as any in Washington, and were plenty of men at the North ready from it; that things were actually bad- in all the Northwestern States, whose as bad as bad could be. This seemed services had been refused by the War to surprise him, and Mr. Guthrie added | Department, on the ground that they his persuasion to mine; when Mr. Cam- would not be needed. We discussed all ville by rail via Frankfort next morn- spirit, and I thought I had aroused Mr. ing early, and make the same connec- Cameron to a realization of the great Elizabethtown. Gen. Geo. H. Thomas | tions at Cincinnati, consented to go with | war that was before us, and was in fact

by Gen. H. W. Halleck.

Mr. Cameron ordered him to divert

begged him to come over to Louisville; exclaimed: "Great God! where are they a day with us. He asked if everything accept their services; for it was nowas not well with us, and I told him far | torious that regiments had been formed eron, learning that he could leave Louis- these matters fully in the most friendly he might attend to my requests on reach-

Greene was the Adjutant-General, and velopments in St. Louis of some of Fre- maining there a couple of days, I re- to affirm or denyeit. mont's extravagant contracts and ex- turned to Louisville. On the 22d of MY POSITION WAS, THEREFORE, SIMPLY After some general conversation Mr. | were posted at Elizabethtown and Leb- | relief. About Nov. 1 Gen. McClellan

"NOW, GEN. SHERMAN, TELL US OF YOUR troops which had been ordered by Mr. all the armies in the field, and by tele-Cameron when at Louisville, and they graph called for a report from me. It DUNG were all that I received thereafter, prior is herewith given: with so many strangers present. He said: "They are all friends, all members Washington Mr. Cameron called on Gen. I. Thomas Adjutant General Washington Wa of my family, and you may speak your Gen. Thomas, as he himself afterward told me, to submit his memorandum of events during his absence, and in that night, I submit this report of the forces in Kentucky, and of their condition. memorandum was mentioned my insane request for 200,000 men. By some newspaper man this was seen and pub-

Nolin and Dick Robinson were power- as "insane, crazy," etc. Without any less for invasion, and only tempting to knowledge, however, of this fact, I had a General such as we believed Sidney previously addressed to the Adjutant-Johnston to be; that, if Johnston chose, General of the Army at Washington this

HEADQ'RS DEP'T OF THE CUMBERLAND,

SIR: On my arrival at Camp Dick Robinson I found Gen. Thomas had stationed a Kentucky regiment at Rock Castle Hill, beyond a river of the same name, and had sent an Ohio and an



GEN. NEGLEY.

force nearer to his advance-guard, so as to support it, as he had information of the approach of Zollicoffer toward London. I have just to move forward and is now, for I know that he saw the toward Green Riv- move, and had his wagons loaded up at a slave or a mule in Kentucky could be heard from him, that he had sent forward Gen. Schoepf with Col. Welford's cavalry, Col. Steadman's Ohio regiment, and a battery of should be strong enough for the purpose; at all events, it is all he had or I could give him.

was a force in the valley of Big Sandy, sup-posed to be advancing on Paris, Ky. Gen. Nelson, at Maysville was instructed to collect all the men he could, and Col. Gill's regiment of Ohio volunteers. Col. Harris was already in position at Olympian Springs, and a regiment lay at Lexington, which I ordered to his support. This leaves the line of Thomas's operations exposed, but I cannot help it. I explained so fully to yourself and the Secretary of War the condition of things, that I can add nothing new until further developments. You know my views that this great center of our field is too weak, far too weak, and I have begged and implored till I dare not say more.

Buckner still is beyond Green River. He sent a detachment of his men, variously estimated at from 2.000 to 4,000, toward Greensburg. Gen. Ward, with about 1,000 men, retreated to Cambellsburg, where he called to his assistance some partially-formed regiments to the number of about 2,000. The enemy did not advance, and Gen, Ward was at last dates at Campbellsburg. The officers charged with raising regiments must of necessity be near their homes to collect men, and for this reason are out of position; but at or near Greensburg and Lebauon I desire to assemble as large a force of the Kentucky volunteers as possible. the necessity is so great that I must have them, and therefore have issued to them arms and clothing during the process of formation. This has facilitated their enlistment; but inasmuch ganizing the Kentucky volunteers, and intrusted its disbursement to a board of loyal gentlemen, I have endeavored to co-operate

with them to hasten the formation of these The great difficulty is, and has been, that as volunteers offer, we have not arms and clothing to give them. The arms sent us are, as you already know, European muskets of uncouth pattern, which the volunteers will not touch.

Gen. McCook has now three brigades—Johnson's, Wood's and Rousseau's. Negley's Brigade arrived to-day, and will be sent out at who turned out to be newspaper re- frontier; that McClellan had 100,000 once. The Minnesota regiment has also arrived, and will be sent forward. Hazzard's regiment of Indiana troops I have ordered to the mouth of Salt Creek, an important point on the turnpike road leading to Elizabethtown.

I again repeat that our force here is out of all proportion to the importance of the position. Our defeat would be disastrous to the Nation, and to expect of new men, who never bore arms, to do miracles is not right.

I am, with much respect, yours truly, W. T. Sherman,

Brigadier-General commanding. About this time my attention was hoped he would come and spend at least and willing to come, if he would only Eastern papers, which of course was copied at the West, of the report that was "crazy, insane and mad," that " I had demanded 200,000 men for the defense of Kentucky," and the authority given for this report was stated to be the



GEN. BUCKNER, C. S. A.

anon Junction. These were the same was appointed Commander-in-Chief of (Continued on second page.)

Gen. L. THOMAS, Adjutant-General, Washington, D. C.
Sir: In compliance with the telegraphic orders of Gen. McClellan, received late last

The tabular statement shows the position of the several regiments. The camp at Nolin is numbers of my troops. I complained lished, and before I had the least content that the new levies of Ohio and Indiana cention of it the advance of Buckner's army, which then fell back to Green River, 23 miles beyond. I WAS UNIVERSALLY PUBLISHED THROUGH- These regiments were substantially without means of transportation, other than the railroad, which is guarded at all dangerous points, yet is liable to interruption at any moment by the tearing up of a rail by the disaffected in-habitants or a hired enemy. These regiments are composed of good materials, but devoid of company officers of experience, and have been put under thorough drill since being in camp. They are generally well clad, and provided for. Beyond Green River, the enemy has masked his forces, and it is very difficult to ascertain even the approximate numbers. No pains have been spared to ascertain them, but without success, and it is well known that they far outnumber us. Depending, however, on the railroads to their rear for transportation, they have not thus far advanced this side of Green River, except in marauding parties. This is the proper line of advance, but will require a very large force, certainly 50,000 men, as their railroad facilities south enable them to concentrate at Munfordsville the entire strength of the South. Gen. McCook's com-

mand is divided into four brigades, under Gens. Wood, R. W. Johnson, Rousseau and Negley. Gen. Thomas's line of operation is from Lexington, toward Cumberland Gap and Ford, which are occupied by a force of rebel Tennes-seeans, under the command of Zollicoffer. Thomas occupies the position at London, in front of two roads which lead to the fertile part of Kentucky, the one by Richmond and the other by Crab Orchard, with his reserve at Camp Dick Robinson, eight miles south of the Kentucky River. His provisions and stores go and thence in wagons to his several regiments. He is forced to hire transportation.

Brig. Gen. Nelson is operating by the line from Olympian Springs, east of Paris, on the Covington & Lexington Railroad, toward Prestonburg, in the valley of the Big Sandy, where is assembled a force of from 2,500 to 3,500 rebel Kentuckians waiting re-enforcements from Virginia. My last report from him was to Oct. 28, at which time he had Col. Harris's 2d Ohio, 900 strong; Col. Norton's 21st Ohio, 1,000, and Col. Sill's 33d Ohio, 750 strong, with two irregular Kentucky regiments, Cols Marshall and Metcalf. These troops were on the road near Hazel Green and West Liberty,

advancing toward Prestonburg. Upon an inspection of the map, you will observe these are all divergent lines, but rendered necessary, from the fact that our enemies choose them as places of refuge from pursuit where they can receive assistance from neighboring States. Our lines are all too weak probably with the exception of that to Prestonburg. To strengthen these, I am thrown or the raw levies of Ohio and Indiana, who arrive in detachments, perfectly fresh from the country, and loaded down with baggage, also upon the Kentuckians, who are slowly forming regiments all over the State, at points remote from dauger, and whom it will be almost im-possible to assemble together. The organization of this latter force is, by the laws of Kentucky, under the control of a military board of citizens at the capital, Frankfort, and they think they will be enabled to have 15 regiments toward the middle of this month, but I doubt it, and deem it unsafe to rely on them. There are four regiments forming in the neighborhood of Owensboro', near the mouth of Green River, who are doing good service, also in the neighborhood of Campbellsville, but it is unsafe to rely on troops so suddenly armed and equipped. They are not yet clothed or uniformed. I know well you will think our force too widely distributed, but we are forced to it by the attitude of our enemies, whose force and numbers the country never has and probably never will comprehend.

I am told that my estimate of troops needed



for this line, viz. 200,000, has been construed to my prejudice, and therefore leave it for the future. This is the great center on which our enemies can concentrate whatever force is not employed elsewhere. Detailed statement of present force inclosed with this.

With great respect, your obedient servent, W. T. SHERMAN, Brigadier-General com-

manding. BRIG.-GEN. MCCOOK'S CAMP AT NOLEN 52 MILES FROM LOUISVILLE, KY., NOV. 4, 1861. First Brigade (Gen. Rousseau) .- Third Ky., panies 19th U. S. Inf., and two companies 15th U. S. Inf., Capt. Gilman.

Second Brigade (Gen. T. J. Wood)-Thirtyeighth Ind., Col. Scribner; 39th Ind., Col. Harrison; 30th Ind., Col. Bass; 29th Ind., Col. Third Brigade (Gen. Johnson) .- Forty-ninth Ohio, Col. Gibson; 15th Ohio, Col. Dickey; 34th Ill., Col. King; 32d Ind., Col. Willach.

Fourth Brigade (Gen. Negley) .- Seventyseventh Pa., Col. Hambright; 78th Pa., Col. Sinnell; 79th Pa., Col. Stambaugh; Battery ____, Capt. Mueller. Camp Dick Robinson (Gen. G. H. Thomas).-

Camp Dick Robinson (Gen. G. H. Thomas).—

Ky., Col. Bramlette; — Ky., Col. Fry;

Ky. Cav., Col. Woolford; 14th Ohio, Col.
Steadman; 1st Art., Col. Barnett; 3d Ohio, Col.
Carter; — E. Tenn, Col. Byrd.

Bardstown, Ky.—Tenth Ind., Col. Manson.
Crab Orchard.—Thirty-third Ind., Col. Co-Jeffersonville, Ind .- Thirty-fourth Ind., Col. Steele; 36th Ind., Col. Grose; 1st Wis., Col.

Mouth of Salt River .- Ninth Mich., Col. Duffield: 37th Ind., Col. Hazzard. Lebanon Junction.-Second Minnesota, Col. Olympian Springs .- Second Ohio, Col. Harris.

Stark weather.

Cynthiana, Ky .- Thirty-fifth Ohio, Col. Van-Nicholasville, Ky .- Twenty-first Ohio, Col. Norton; 38th Ohio, Col. Bradley. Big Hill.—Seventeenth Ohio, Col. Connell. Colesburg .- Twenty-fourth Ill., Col. Hecker.

Elizabethtown, Ky .- Nineteenth Ill., Col Owensboro' or Henderson.—Thirty-first Ind., Col. Cruft; Col. Edwards, forming Rock Castle; Col. Boyle, Harrodsburg; Col. Barney, Irvine; Col. Hazzard, Burksville; Col. Haskins, Som-

And in order to conclude this subject I also add copies of two telegraphic disalso reached Louisville by rail, and ments, not a word of encouragement or patches, sent for Gen. McClellan's use about the same time, which are all the

Fifteenth National Encampment Louisville.

RUSSELL'S ADDRESS.

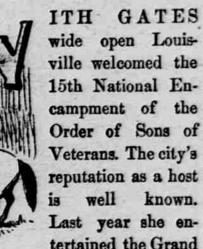
Review of the Year's Work and Recommendations.

COL. RAKE CHOSEN.

Pennsylvania Brother Elected Commander-in-Chief.

LOUISVILLE'S WELCOME.

Arrival of the Visitors and the Opening of the Encampment-Local Camps Entertain. Reception to the Sons of Veterans and Ladies' Aid at the Galt House.



Order of Sons of is well known. doorways and windows.

ber the royal reception given them in Schuler, Miss Sarah Fowler, Mrs. Pau-

Veterans. About 10:30 o'clock a section of the Louisville Legion, escorting a delegation from New York, headed by Commander N. H. Parker, of Gloversvile; Chas. Hagan, of Lanenburg, Assistant Commander; Past Commander Weeks, of New York City ; J. D. Parker, and Geo. Marks, of Brooklyn, marched to the hotel. Four of the delegates car-



REV. FREDERICK B. COLE.

ried brooms, and a fife and drum corps made merry music.

The reception given Monday night from 8 o'clock to 11 in the parlors of wide open Louis- the Galt House by the Ladies' Aid ville welcomed the Society of the Sons of Veterans was in-15th National En- formal, and was highly enjoyed by those fortunate enough to be present. The rooms were prettily decorated with palms and banners containing the Stars and Veterans. The city's Stripes, and pictures of veterans were reputation as a host hung from the chandeliers and over

The receiving ladies included Miss Howey, Miss George, Mrs. A. P. Davis, tertained the Grand Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Smith, of Army with such hospitality that as long the Ladies' Aid Society, and a local as the Order lives comrades will remem- committee composed of Mrs. Amelia



COL. JAMES LEWIS RAKE, New Commander-in-Chief.

1895. This year the Sons of Veterans | lina Strauss, Mrs. Fannie Miller, Mrs. M. met with fully as warm a welcome, and Ninekirk, Mrs. Emma Mayer, Mrs. F. the Encampment of 1896 will long be L. McCarty, Mrs. John Fowler and Mrs.

Camps with from 10 to 50 members. Most of those in attendance were uniformed. Blue-coated, bronze-badged sons of veterans of the civil war dotted the streets, and bespoke the enthusiasm of this powerful Order of young men. By Monday evening fully 2,000 members had arrived, and by the morning of Tuesday the number had increased



Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief.

and was prepared to hold it until the end of the week. ARRIVAL OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF BUS-

SELL.

Commander-in-Chief Russell arrived at 5:55 Monday evening, and was met at the depot by a committee of Sons of Veterans and members of the Citizens' Committee, and was escorted to the Galt House, where he established Headquarters. Among the other arrivals Monday night were many prominent Sons of Main streets attending to the general forms-

The Galt House was crowded until charge of the Second Division; Marmadule past midnight Monday with Sons of Bowden, in charge of the Third Division;

R. M. Busby,

Sunday the boys began to arrive. The two local Camps, John Fowler, 1. Monday the trains were bringing in and Henry S. Kohn, 5, had Headquarters at 219 West Main street, and there it was that many visitors congregated before the opening session of the En-Headquarters a temporary bar had been erected and there Kentucky's favorite product, punch and cigars, were served to the visitors gratis. A number of the members of the Citizens' Committee to fully 5,000. In the hotels, depots, were present and each newcomer was and at Headquarters could be seen the made to feel perfectly at home. The blue uniforms of the invading host, members of the local Camps were also Col. Bulkley; 4th Ky., Col. Whittaker; 1st Cav., Col. Board; Stone's battery; two com- which had captured the city by storm, on hand, and gladly gave the strangers any information they desired and showed them around the city.

STREET PARADE.

Sons of Veterans and Other Uniformed Or-Wednesday morning's feature was the street parade of the Sons of Veterans, in which several other uniformed bodies took part. Although somewhat of a disappointment as to numbers, the Sons made an excellent showing, and with heads erect and in perfect alignment and with step that was even and light they passed in review. This was a great contrast to the parade of a year

before, when the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic, 30,000 strong, with wrinkled faces, bent shoulders and unsteady step, passed over the same line of march and were cheered by hundreds of thousands of loyal people. What was lacking in number by the Sons

of Veterans was made up in appearance, and the parade was a success in every detail, thanks to the efforts of Chief Marshal Whedon and his able corps of assistants.

The parade was announced to start at 10 o'clock, but long before that hour the route was lined with thousands of people, all anxious to secure advantageous positions. All along Main, Market and Jefferson streets flags fluttered from the doors and windows of the business houses, and there was no end of pretty girls along the line of march, who cheered and waved their handkerchiefs to make the Sons of Veterans march with shoulders well together, heads erect and even tread. Gen. Whedon was at First and Veterans from all over the United tion of the parade. He was assisted by the States.

The Gelt House was growded until of the First Division; W. P. McDowell, in